## ABSTRACT

Process for the preparation of an N-formyl-L-leucyl-L-*tert.*-leucine-N-methylamide in which N-formyl L-leucine is coupled to L-*tert.*-leucine-N-methylamide in the presence of an activating agent. Preferably, use is made of L-*tert.*-leucine-N-methylamide with an enantiomeric excess greater than 98% and N-formyl-L-leucine with an enantiomeric excess greater than 98%. If desired, the dipeptide obtained is subsequently deformylated and the resulting N-formyl-L-leucyl-L-*tert.*-leucine-N-methylamide or the L-leucyl-L-*tert.*-leucine-N-methylamide is further subjected to one or more crystallizations.

The invention also relates to the N-formyl-L-leucyl-L-*tert.*-leucine-N-methylamide and the use of N-formyl-L-leucyl-L-*tert.*-leucine-N-methylamide in the preparation of pharmaceuticals.